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Appl. No. to be assigned

April 20, 2004

amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method of removing a film layer on a glass plate, comprising the steps of:

defining in a divided manner a region of a film layer to be removed on a glass plate; and

concurrently effecting removal of the film layer on the glass plate in an apportioned manner with respect to respective divided regions defined in the divided manner.

2. (Original) The method of removing a film layer on a glass plate according to claim 1, wherein the region of the film layer to be removed on the glass plate is defined in a divided manner in accordance with at least any one of conditions including its area, shape, and removal time.

3. (Currently amended) The method of removing a film layer on a glass plate according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein the region of the film layer to be removed on the glass plate is defined in the divided manner such that areas of the respective divided regions assume mutually substantially identical areas.

4. (Original) The method of removing a film layer on a glass plate according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the region of the film layer to be removed on

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the glass plate is defined in the divided manner such that durations of removal time for removing the film layer in the respective divided regions are set to mutually substantially identical durations.

5. (Currently amended) The method of removing a film layer on a glass plate according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein a position at which the removal of the film layer is started in each of the divided regions is determined in accordance with the shape of each of the divided regions.

Claims 6-11 cancelled

12. (Currently amended) A glass-plate working apparatus comprising:
said apparatus for removing a film layer on a glass plate according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 10~~ claim 6;
bend-breaking means for bend-breaking a glass plate whose film layer has been removed;
grinding means for grinding peripheries of the glass plate bend-broken by said bend-breaking means; and
transporting means for transporting the glass plate consecutively to said apparatus for removing a film layer, said bend-breaking means, and said grinding means.

13. (Original) The glass-plate working apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said bend-breaking means includes cutting means for forming a cut line for bend-breaking the glass plate whose film layer has been removed and press-breaking

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means for press-breaking along the cut line the glass plate on which the cut line has been formed.

14. (Currently amended) The glass-plate working apparatus according to claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein said first and second removing means respectively have grinding wheels for grinding and removing the film layer on the glass plate, said grinding wheels being arranged on both sides of a path for transporting the glass plate by said transporting means.